



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Revenue
Child Support Enforcement Division

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Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) / Electronic Data Information (EDI) Transactions
INFORMATION FOR EMPLOYERS

Introduction

Electronic Funds Transfer (**EFT**) / Electronic Data Information (**EDI**) allows employers to electronically transfer support-related withholdings through the Automated Clearing House (**ACH**), a government facility that coordinates EFT/EDI transactions.

EFT/EDI provides your company with long-term financial savings in operating costs by:

- Increasing accuracy;
- Increasing reliability - no lost checks or mail delays;
- Reducing paperwork;
- Eliminating postage costs; and
- Eliminating theft or fraud.

How EFT/EDI Works

1. Your company transmits the payment and remittance information to your financial institution. The data is typically transferred via modem to your financial institution (ACH credit).
2. Your financial institution creates the ACH entries required to transfer child support withholdings via the ACH network to the financial institution that the Massachusetts Payment Processing Center uses to collect the funds.
3. The Massachusetts Payment Processing Center (**MA PPC**) will electronically collect your information and funds for processing.

Steps To Implement

There are four steps to implementing EFT for child support withholdings.

1. Reconcile the State of Massachusetts' identifying information with the identifying information you remit with child support withholdings.

It is important that the identifying information you submit with child support withholdings match the identifying information in the Massachusetts' child support computer system. If the information does not match, there may be a delay in processing the child support withholdings. To ensure families receive support payments in a timely manner, the MA PPC will reconcile employer identifying information with information in the child support computer system prior to accepting EFT/ EDI child support withholdings from an employer.

Prepare a spreadsheet with each employee's name, social security number, and the file number for which you withhold child support. Send this information to the MA PPC. The MA PPC will compare the information with identifying information in Massachusetts' child support computer system and work with you to resolve any discrepancies.

Send your spreadsheet by mail to:

MA PPC
Attn: EFT/EDI Assistance
300 Crown Colony Drive, Suite 500
Quincy, MA 02169-0974
617-471-6877 ext. 715

Send your spreadsheet by email to: Marilyn.O'Brien@acs-inc.com

2. Adapt your payroll system to create the ACH file.

To implement EFT/EDI, your payroll system or other computer system must be able to create the data structure to build the ACH file you will transfer to your financial institution.

The Task Force on Electronic Child Support Payments: A Guide for Employers and Their Financial Institutions prescribes the appropriate formats and standards for transmitting EFT/EDI child support withholdings.

You can order this publication from the National Automated Clearinghouse Association (**NACHA**) by calling **703-742-9190** or via the web at <http://ecsp.nacha.org>

Attached, you will find materials adapted from this guide. There are software applications that accommodate the required data (your existing payroll system may already offer this function). You can also contact your financial institution regarding available ACH software.

3. Coordinate with your financial institution.

Contact your financial institution to determine its capabilities and requirements. In most instances, your financial institution is already accustomed to receiving and sending EFT/EDI transmissions. Complete an agreement with your financial institution that authorizes you to transfer EFT/EDI child support withholdings to the MA PPC.

4. Test the process with your financial institution and the MA PPC.

Test Transmission

After you complete necessary changes to your computer system, you must conduct a test transmission of child support withholding information with your financial institution. Based on the results of this test, some additional changes may be necessary to your computer system or the bank's computer system. You should continue to test the process until both you and the bank are satisfied that the information is being transferred completely and accurately.

Conduct a Prenotification (prenote)

After perfecting the transmission of child support withholding information between you and your financial institution, contact the MA PPC (**617-471-6877 x715**) to arrange a "prenote" prior to your first actual transmission. A prenote simulates a future live transmission and is used to ensure the banking information included with the transmission is correct. The prenote contains zeros in the amount field to make certain that no funds are transferred during the test.

NACHA Record Format for Employers Withholding Child Support Payment

The following record formats are necessary to send EFT transactions over the Automated Clearing House (**ACH**) Network:

- File Header Recorder
- Company/Batch Header Record
- Entry Detail Record
- Addenda Record - this is the record that contains the payment information
- Company/Batch Control Header
- File Control Record

The ACH starts with a **File Header Record** and ends with a **File Control Record**. The file may contain one or more unique batches each starting with a **Company Batch Header Record** and ending with a **Company Batch Control Record**. Your company can send multiple batches in the same file. This gives you the opportunity to group your transactions by division, location, payroll frequency, etc.

The heart of the ACH file consists of the **Entry Detail Record** and the **Addenda Record**. The **Entry Detail Record** contains the information necessary to transfer the funds from your financial institution to the MA PPC's financial institution.

The **Addenda Record** is used to supply information about your employee and how to apply the child support payment.

There are two types of **Entry Detail Record** that your company can use:

" CCD+" or "CTX, 820 Transaction Set"

Please check with your financial institution to see if it supports both types.

Attachment A – CCD+ record layout information

Attachment B – Addenda record information

For specific information on the CTX 820 Transaction Set, please refer to:
http://ecsp.nacha.org/Child_Support_User_Guide_2.0.PDF (page 18ff)

Attachment A Record Layout Information

CCD+ Record Layout Information

Entry Flow

When using the CCD+ Record Layout, employers should ensure that entries flow in the following order:

File Header Record

Company/ Batch Header Record

Entry Detail Record

Addenda Record (1 addenda with 80 byte payment related information field)

Entry Detail Record

Addenda Record (1 addenda with 80 byte payment related information field)

Entry Detail Record

Addenda Record (1 addenda with 80 byte payment related information field)

Entry Detail Record

Addenda Record (1 addenda with 80 byte payment related information field)

Company/Batch Control Record

File Control Record

Entry Detail Record Layout

Field	Data Element Name	Field Inclusion Requirement	Contents	Length	Position	Description
1	Record Type	M	6	1	01-01	Constant "6"
2	Transaction Code	M	Numeric	2	02-03	22
3	Receiving DFI Identification	M	TTTTAAAA	8	04-11	999999999 (Example only)
4	Check Digit	M	Numeric	1	12-12	5
5	DFI Account Number	M	Alphanumeric	17	13-29	9999999999999 (Example only)
6	Total Amount	M	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$cc	10	30-39	999999v99/credits only
7	Identification Number	O	Alphanumeric	15	40-54	
8	Receiving Company Name	R	Alphanumeric	22	55-76	MA_CHILD_SUPPORT
9	Discretionary Data	O	Alphanumeric	2	77-78	
10	Addenda Record Indicator	M	Numeric	1	79-79	1 (must be one addenda record for each entry detail record)
11	Trace Number	M	Numeric	15	80-94	Assigned by the originating bank

M = Mandatory for ACH; **R** = required for this application;

O = Optional for ACH, but may be required by the state child support agency.

These are current value for the MA PPC depository account located at Citizens Bank.

Entry Detail Record Layout

Field	Data Element Name	Field Inclusion Requirement	Contents	Length	Position	Description
1	Record Type	M	6	1	01-01	Constant "6"
2	Transaction Code	M	Numeric	2	02-03	22
3	Receiving DFI Identification	M	TTTTAAAA	8	04-11	999999999 (Example only)
4	Check Digit	M	Numeric	1	12-12	5
5	DFI Account Number	M	Alphanumeric	17	13-29	9999999999999 (Example only)
6	Total Amount	M	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$cc	10	30-39	999999v99/credits only
7	Identification Number	O	Alphanumeric	15	40-54	
8	Number of Addenda Records	M	Numeric	4	55-58	Number of addenda records included in payment
9	Receiving Company Name	R	Alphanumeric	16	59-74	MA_CHILD_SUPPORT
10	Reserved	N/A	Blank	2	75-76	Leave blank
11	Discretionary Data	O	Alphanumeric	2	77-78	
12	Addenda Record Indicator	M	Numeric	1	79-79	1 (may be up to 9,999 addenda records for each entry detail record)
13	Trace Number	M	Numeric	15	80-94	Assigned by the originating bank

M = Mandatory for ACH; **R** = required for this application;
O = Optional for ACH, but may be required by the state child support agency.
 These are current value for the MA PPC depository account located at Citizens Bank.

Attachment B Addenda Record Information

Addenda Record Layout

Field	Data Element Name	Field Inclusion Indicator	Contents	Length	Position	Description
1	Record Type Code	M	7	1	01-01	7
2	Addenda Type code	M	05	2	02-03	05
3	Payment Related Information	O	Alphanumeric	80	04-83	See CCD+ DED Child Support Segment/Convention for Employers Section Below
4	Addenda Sequence Number	M	Numeric	4	84-87	0001 for CCD+
5	Entry Detail Sequence Number	M	Numeric	7	88-94	Matches item number part of "trace" number

CCD+ DED Child Support Segment/Convention for Employers

Element	Comments	Content	Attributes		
			1	2	3
	Segment Identifier	DED	M	ID	3/3
DED01	Application Identifier	CS	M	ID	2/2
DED02	Case Identifier	PIN, Case # or Employee SSN	M	AN	1/20
DED03	Pay Date	YYMMDD (Date of Withholding)	M	DT	6/6
DED04	Payment Amount	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$cc	M	N2	1/10
DED05	Parent Paying SSN	XXXXXXXX (Employee's SSN)	M	AN	9/9
DED06	Medical Support Indicator	Y= Yes; N= No	M	AN	1/1
DED07	Name of Parent Paying	XXXXXXXXXXXXX	R	AN	1/10
DED08	FIPS	025000	R	AN	5/7
DED09	Employment Termination Indicator	Y= Yes	R	AN	1/1

These are current values for the MA PPC depository account located at Citizens Bank.

The remittance information for each payment is within this field, which is presented in the banking convention as described within the "CCD+ DED Child Support Segment/Convention for Employers" section of this attachment.

The payment information is a **REQUIRED** field for each support withholding.

Each element (DEDOX) occupies a specific position within the record segment and is identified by a unique identifier. In constructing the record segment, each data element is preceded by the separator character. The ACH Network requires that an asterisk (*) be used as the data element separator. Each segment must end with a terminator, which for the ACH Network is a backlash (\).

The following is an example of the Deduction Data (DED) Segment as used in the Payment Related Information segment of the Support Payment addenda record:

DED*application identifier*case identifier*pay date*payment amount*non-custodial parent ssn*medical support indicator*non-custodial parent name *FIPS code employment termination indicator\. (Note the use of the “*” and the “\”).

Example:

705DED*CS*001 030 086*030919*0000024419*022222200*Y*VAR,CHAON*0250000\

Definition of Elements

DED01 Application Identifier - Always enter the fixed value of “CS” in this field.
This is a **mandatory** field.

DED02 Application Identifier - This can be either the personal identification number (PIN), or the employee’s Social Security number.
This is a **mandatory** field.

DED03 Payment Date - This is the date that your company will deduct the support funds from the employee’s pay. This date must be equal to or prior to the date that the EFT transaction reaches the MA PPC. Please note that the date is expressed in this format; Year, Month, and Day.
This is a **mandatory** field.

DED04 Payment Amount - This is the amount that your company is withholding from an employee in compliance with an income withholding notice or order. The decimal point is implied to be the last two positions of the number shown. Do not include a decimal point in this field. This field cannot be zero unless the *Employment Termination Indicator* in DED09 is set to “Y.”
This is a **mandatory** field.

DED05 Parent Paying -SSN-This is the line position. This field is the employee’s Social Security Number.
This is a **mandatory** field.

DED06 Medical Support Indicator - A “Y” in this field indicates that the employee has family medical coverage available through your company. Please note the questions are “Does your company **offer** family medical coverage?” and not “Does the employee **have** family medical coverage?” If there is no medical coverage available through your company, place an “N” in this field.
This is a **mandatory** field.

DED07 Name of Parent Paying - This is the employee’s name. The format is last name, first name. The length of the field is from one to ten positions long. Do not enter more than ten positions even if you do not have enough room for the full name. Include a comma between the last name and the first name when the last name is less than seven characters. In most cases you will not be able to fit the full name in this field.
This is a **required** field.

DED08 FIPS Code - Always enter the fixed value of “0250000” in this field for the Massachusetts child support payments.
This is a **required** field.

DED09 Employment Termination Indicator - Enter “Y” in this field if the employee is no longer employed at your company, or if this is the last pay period that the employee will be employed at your company. Please do not enter “Y” in this field when an employee is laid off or on temporary leave. The only time that the Payment Amount can be zero is when this field is set to “Y.” “Y” is the only value that has any meaning in this field.
This is a **required** field if the employee is no longer employed at your company.
